



**PATIENT**

Kirby Galdieri

**PRESENTING CLINICAL SIGNS**

Presented for an acute onset of tachypnea/respiratory distress. Radiographs were suspicious for a cranial mediastinal mass  
Abnormal PE/Chem/CBC/UA Results: Neutrophilic leukocytosis. Otherwise normal

**SPECIES**

Canine

**COMPUTED TOMOGRAPHIC STUDY OF THE THORAX**

Plain and post contrast studies available for review.

**BREED**

English Bulldog

**COMPUTED TOMOGRAPHIC FINDINGS**

T4 and T12 are butterfly vertebrae. T13/L1 presents mild spondylosis deformans.

**SEX**

MN

An ill-defined irregular shaped soft tissue attenuating mass with multilobulated appearance is seen at the heart base. The mass measures approximately 10 cm in diameter. There is a significant mass effect onto the heart, cranial vena cava, right atrium, and aorta. Lesion margins are ill-defined.

**AGE**

10

There appears to be cranial mediastinal lymphadenomegaly, however, this area of the scan is affected by photon starvation.

The hypoplastic trachea is deviated to the right and dorsally by the mass effect.

**INTERPRETED BY**

Nele Eley, DVM  
Dr. med. Vet. DipECVDI

The lung and bronchial tree present within age related normal limits. Dystelectatic changes are seen in the caudodorsal lung.

**COMPUTED TOMOGRAPHIC DIAGNOSIS**

- Heart base mass meeting neoplastic criteria with severe mass effect onto the heart, trachea, and carina.
- No structural evidence of bronchopulmonary disease.
- Congenital vertebral malformation - unrelated to the reason of presentation.

**HOSPITAL NAME**

Northeast Veterinary  
Referral Hospital

**INTERPRETATION OF THE FINDINGS & FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS**

The CT study reveals a large mass at the heart base meeting neoplastic criteria. Chemodectoma/ paraganglioma is considered the most likely differential diagnosis. However, hemangiosarcoma, lymphoma, and other neoplasia cannot be ruled out entirely. Most chemodectomas are benign and typically cause clinical signs by the time they have grown large and are pushing onto the heart and major blood vessels which appears to be the case here and would explain the exercise intolerance of the patient.

**REFERRING VET**

Dr. Runde

**INVOICE**

52071

Treatment options comprise surgery even though complete removal is unlikely to be possible. The use of chemotherapy with Palladia has been described and irradiative treatment of the tumor is typically effective. The options should be discussed with a specialized oncologist if not performed already.

**DATE**

5-12-22



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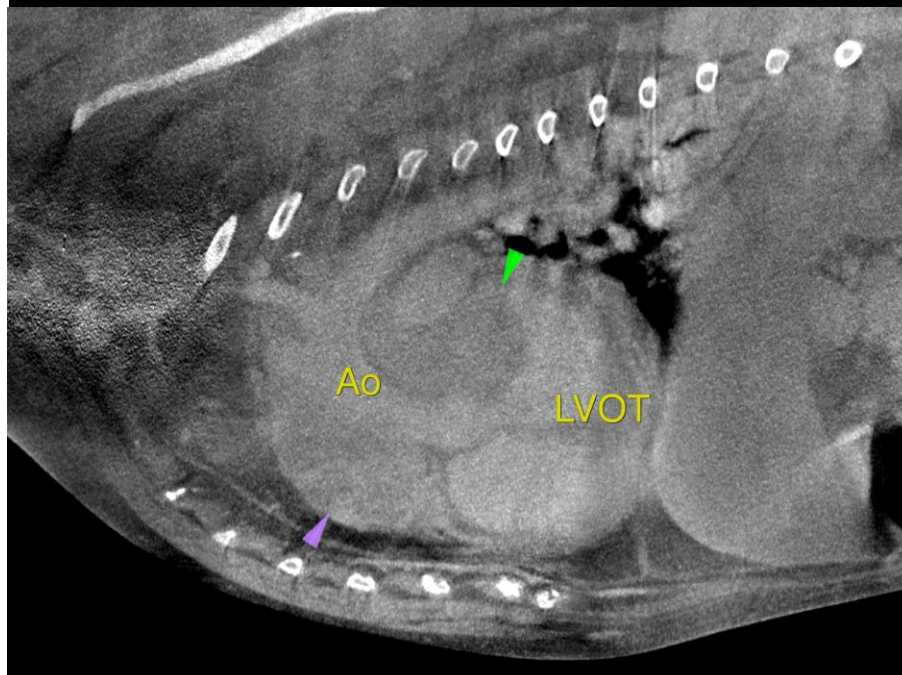
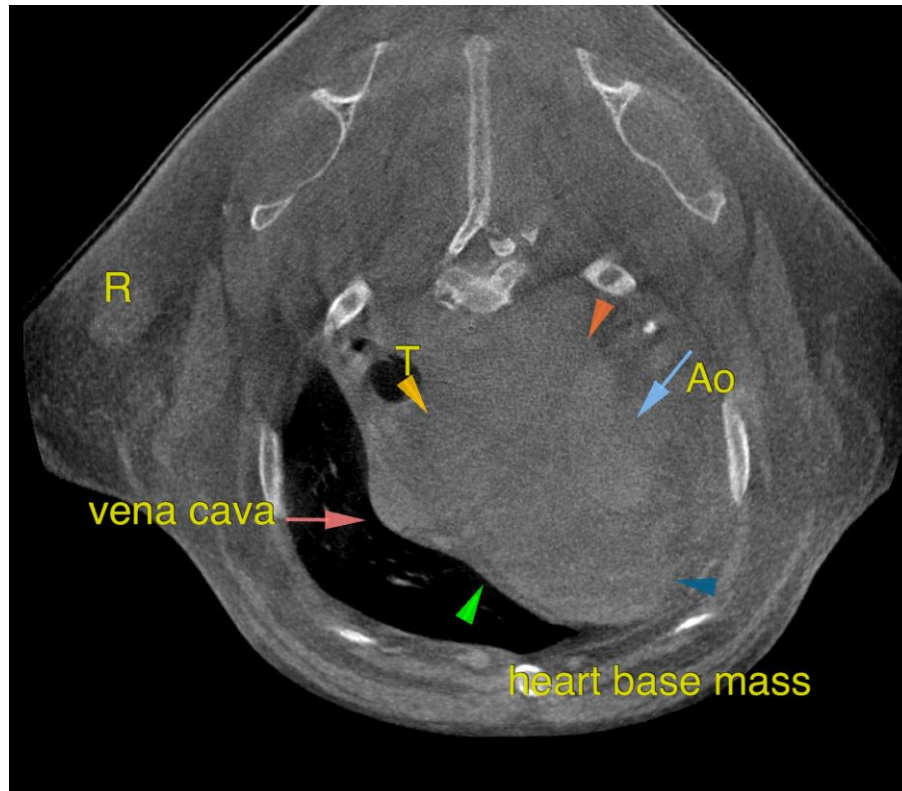
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The information and recommendations provided are based on the images presented by the referring veterinarian/sonographer. No evaluation can be communicated regarding pathology that was not visible in the image/video clips provided.

Thank you for this referral. If the clinical or image interpretation does not parallel your findings or if I can be of any further assistance please contact me.

**SPECIES**

Canine

**Nele Eley**, DVM, Dr. med. vet., DipECVDI  
European Specialist in Veterinary Diagnostic Imaging, Cert. Radiology,  
Senior lecturer University of Giessen, Germany, Veterinary Faculty, Department of Radiology  
Nele.Eley@sonopath.com

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